



DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS  
Medical Center  
2002 Holcombe Boulevard  
Houston TX 77030

In Reply Refer To:

\* March 11, 1997

John Scythes  
32 Beaty Ave.  
Toronto, Canada M6K 3B4

Dear John:

Thanks for sending me your protocol. I also appreciate your gracious covering letter (which I am utilizing to respond).

As for the research - it is as if you and I are talking different languages. In Prufrock T.S. Eliot says: "I hear the mermaids singing each to each/ they do not sing to me." Who knows which is "correct," or whether correctness exists.

Good luck on your work. Thanks for sharing it with me.

Sincerely,

Daniel Musher, M.D.  
Chief, Infectious Disease Section  
Professor of Medicine  
Microbiology/Immunology

DMM/plb



Feb 14/97



DEPARTMENT OF  
VETERANS AFFAIRS

MEDICAL CENTER  
Infectious Disease Section (111G)  
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HOUSTON, TX 77030

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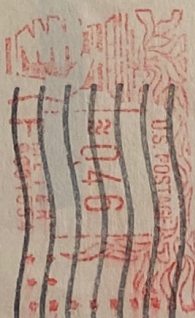
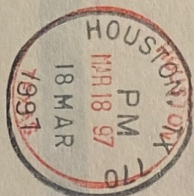
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John Scythes  
32 Beaty Ave.,  
Toronto, Canada  
M6K 3B4

Feb 14/97

VA Medical Center  
2002 Holcombe Blvd.,  
Houston TX USA  
77030

Att'n Dr. D. M. Musher, ID Section Chief

Dear Dr. Musher:

Please find enclosed an application for funding to attempt the direct detection of T. pallidum in HIV tissues, and as well perhaps by detection of immunologic priming in vitro.

Your work in the late 80's and early 90's has been very helpful in formulating my concerns about the disappearance of syphilis as a cause of morbidity and mortality in a very promiscuous and highly STD-infected group of men.

I was hoping that you might comment on the concepts and concerns raised in this application, and forward to myself and the Open Society Institute (address in NYC) a brief review. I will keep your comments in confidence (not like the last time!).

Kindest regards,

John B. Scythes  
encl